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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

WE understand that the Hon. A. Mackenzie, Professor McLaren, Rev. John Thomson, and others are to take part in the closing exercises of the Brantford Ladies' College on Wednesday evening next.

So much of our space in this issue being occupied by the report of the meeting of the General Assembly, we are under the necessity of holding over several contributions and communications.

THE wife of Midhat Pasha, the new Governor of Syria, while recently at Beirut, told Miss Taylor, the principal of the Moslem Girls' School, that the Pasha meant to compel all Mohammedan parents to send their children to school.

THE American Education Society gives \$75 to each of the young men on its list for the past year. For the two previous years it gave them respectively \$65 and \$50. Would we had some such Society to relieve our overpressed College!

IN our report of the first evening's proceedings of the General Assembly we could not make room for the retiring Moderator's sermon, but we shall have the pleasure of laying before our readers a very full report of it in our next issue.

A SERIES of sermons for Sabbath evenings has been commenced by Rev. John Hogg of Charles street Church, Toronto. Last Sabbath evening's subject was "Communism," next Sabbath evening, "The World—its Malady and its Doctors."

A RELIGIOUS paper, called the "Christian Messenger," has been started in Servia, and has found rapid circulation. The Princess of Servia is among its subscribers. It is the only gospel paper in the country, where gross infidelity and socialism are the creed of the masses.

AS an illustration of the civilizing tendency of the labours of the Moravian missionaries among the aborigines of New South Wales, three of the native women at one of their stations have supplied themselves with sewing machines, and one family has bought a nice cottage harmonium.

THE Rev. J. Caswell having resigned the position of Clerk and Convener of the Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery of Ottawa, the Rev. J. White, Rochesterville, has been appointed Clerk, and the Rev. F. W. Farries, Convener. All communications should henceforth be sent to these parties.

THE "Osservatore Romano" publishes a Latin brief, wherein the Pope enjoins that, to the prayer, "Blessed be the Holy Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary," be added the words "Mother of God," and that to whoever devoutly recites these additional words will be conceded 300 days' indulgence.

SIX teachers of the London Missionary Society, landing recently on an island near New Guinea, were poisoned by the natives, who placed upas wood in their drinking water. Of twenty men landed in this district, only five remain, the rest having died of poison and fever. These teachers were converted Polynesians.

THE "Catholic Review" has waxed very hot, if not eloquent. It says the horrid tragedy of Pocasset "may be truthfully called the sublimation of Protestantism." How handy and easy for those who do not live in glass houses to throw stones. Everyone knows that whatever can be charged to Roman Catholicism it has never driven people mad, or supplied prisons with inmates and gallows with subjects!!!

A MINISTRY which fails to waken in men an interest in works of benevolence may well be set down as a failure. An exchange tells of an elder who was recently looking for a pastor, and while making special inquiries about a certain candidate, he discovered that the church over which this person had been settled, had contributed nothing to missions. He inquired no further, but simply remarked: "That man won't do."

THE Khedive of Egypt has received a despatch from Captain Gessi indicating that the slave trade at its chief centre has been crushed, and the rich territories of the Soudan are soon likely to be opened to civilization. Captain Gessi fought seven battles with the slave traders on the Gazelle river. All slave stations were destroyed, and the establishment of civilization will prevent any further raids from the region of the Gazelle.

THE third edition of the Canadian Conveyancer, and Handy Book of Property Law, carefully revised by J. Rordans (Toronto, J. Rordans & Co.) comes before us much improved in appearance, and the forms have evidently been prepared with great care, and revised by an eminent barrister. It is the result of the matured experience of the author, during the last quarter of a century, in his business of a law stationer, and will no doubt meet with a large amount of success amongst those concerned in the transfer of property, to whom it is calculated to be very useful.

FROM a glance at the report of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, we find that the Rev. Dr. Robb, lately of Cooke's Church, Toronto, after having rendered good service in Canada as a strong conservative in matters of ritual and form of public worship, just crossed the Atlantic in time to fight the self-same battle on the "old sod." Although we think that reform is necessary in the matter of hymnals and congregational singing, still we consider it eminently beneficial to have such men as Dr. Robb in order to prevent hasty or ill-considered legislation.

THE closing exercises for the present year of the Brantford Young Ladies' College, take place next week. On Sabbath evening first, the 22nd inst., the sermon to the graduates will be preached by the Rev. Dr. Cochrane. On Tuesday evening the annual con-

cert will be given in Wickliffe Hall, and on Wednesday evening the presentation of diplomas, medals, and prizes will take place. Addresses will be given by prominent ministers and members of the Church. We hope to see a large attendance of the friends of the college present on these different occasions. The annual report of the operations of the College, presented to the Assembly on Friday last, was highly satisfactory to the promoters and teachers in the institution.

WE have in this issue a most interesting article under the heading "An Appeal to our Young Folks." We have placed it in the department of our paper specially devoted to them in order that they will be quite sure not to miss it. The appeal is in favour of the Hospital for Sick Children. This institution is well conducted, and has nothing to depend upon except the voluntary contributions of thoughtful and charitable Christians, and the untiring energies of a few kind-hearted ladies in this city, who originated it, and who have carried it through to the present time in the face of difficulties that would have daunted ordinary courage and overcome weaker faith. We recommend this charity to the attention of our readers, old and young, and hope the required funds will shortly be forthcoming.

THE Editor of "The Canadian Spectator" must have his finger in every question that turns up, whether it legitimately comes in his way or not, and the trouble is that besides his finger he generally puts his foot in it. The most remarkable item in the last issue—as usual copiously spattered over with his peculiar editorial pronoun, "I"—is an uncalled-for attack on Professor Patton of Chicago. It seems that the professor has been telling his congregation—we take the quotation as furnished by Mr. Bray—that "the best brains are not going into the ministry; that Presbyterian parents encourage their most promising sons to go into secular callings; and that unless those Presbyterian parents pursue a different policy, the Presbyterian churches of this country will have to go to great Britain and Ireland for ministers of intellectual power." In the first place the critic finds fault with Professor Patton for not making "his remarks more general so as to include some other denominations." But had he taken such a course, captious criticism would most certainly have followed him, and told him to talk to his own people and leave others alone. The next fault is also a sin of omission: Dr. Patton has not stated the reason why the best brains do not go into the ministry; or at least he has not done so to the satisfaction of the enlightened and "advanced" "Spectator." Know all men—Dr. Patton included—that the reason why young men with brains do not enter the ministry is that they are afraid of being confined by Westminster strait-jackets and persecuted by Chicago professors. "There's the rub," says Mr. Bray; and, a few lines farther on, the inevitable singular pronoun comes in somewhat more fittingly than usual; for it is not the editor that speaks but the man, A. J. Bray, and he speaks from personal experience. Of course we do not insist that he is one of those people that "have brains," but he thinks he is; and he has met with such "rubs" as he refers to, and feels sore. We pass no opinion on Dr. Patton's statement as a matter of fact; but if the only indication of brains is the rejection of Scripture truth, then the fewer "young men with brains" enter the Christian ministry the better.